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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
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Hongkong, 1st July, 1908.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 27th, 1908.

Dr. ATKINSON, the Principal Civil Medical
Officer, as he reads the eulogies on his
services to the community pronounced by
Mr. SHELTON HOOPER and Mr. LAU CHU
PAK at the meeting of the Sanitary Board
yesterday will probably have a few perplex-
ing moments if he allows his mind to wander
back to the publication of the Report of the
Sanitary Commission, and he might not
inappropriately murmur:

Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love.
But why did you kick me downstairs?

The removal of Dr. Atkinson from the
Sanitary Board of which he has for some
years past been the President, is one direct
result of the Report of the Sanitary Com-
mission, and it is pleasing to note that on
the inauguration of the changes in the
constitution of the Board effected by the
law which is the outcome of that Com-
mission, one of its most active and hard
working members should avail himself of
the opportunity to emphasise the fact that
the recommendation to relieve the Principal
Civil Medical Officer of the Presidency of
the Sanitary Board implied no lack of ap-
preciation of Dr. Atkinson's zeal and ability.

The recommendation was made because the
Commissioners considered that it was
humanly impossible for an official charged
with such multifarious duties as devolve
upon the Principal Civil Medical Officer of
Health in this Colony, to give all the atten-
tion that is obviously desirable to the work
of an Administrative Head of "one of the
largest and most important Departments in
the Government of the Colony, with an

annual expenditure of close upon \$500,000
and a staff of upwards of 60 members
exclusive of a large number of clerks and
of coolies, and day-to-day employees." Dr.

Atkinson was described in the Report as
Medical Adviser to the Government and
head of the Medical Department having the
supervision of a large medical staff, the
Government Civil Hospital, with branches
of maternity hospital and infectious
hospitals, the asylum, gaol, bacteriological
Departments, and Victoria mortuary, and
as is well known, he is not only liable
but actually is called in to act as consulting
surgeon to the above establishments. In
addition to all this the Principal Civil
Medical Officer is resident surgeon of
the chief hospital in the Colony for
women and children, containing 40
beds. This hospital, the Commissioners
declared, is in itself sufficient occupation
for one surgeon. In the face of this
catalogue of occupations it is easy to
recognise the truth of the statement that it
is humanly impossible for any man holding
them all to give the attention that is
necessary to the administration of the
Sanitary Department. No one, we imagine,
has more reason to be pleased with the
change the new law effects in the constitu-
tion of the Sanitary Board than the
Principal Civil Medical Officer himself.
His duties as Principal Civil Medical
Officer are sufficiently onerous and exacting,
and it may be accepted as eloquent testi-
mony to his zeal and administrative
capacity that he has been able for so long
to add to these duties the heavy respon-
sibilities of "almost despotic rule" in the
Sanitary Department without any apparent
sacrifice of that high state of efficiency
in the Medical Department which the
community long since learnt to associate
with his name.

The welcome accorded to Mr. McI.
Messers, the new Administrative Head of
the Department, was no less graceful, for
it will not have been forgotten that when
the Commission expressed in their Report
the opinion that the President of the
Sanitary Board should not be a medical
man, they did not count on the Principal
Civil Medical Officer being replaced
by another ex-officio President. They
desired that the Sanitary Board should have
the right to elect its President annually, as
in all municipal assemblies; but the Govern-
ment vetoed the idea and decided to appoint
to the position "a cadet officer with experi-
ence of the Chinese, in the Chinese language,
and of proved administrative capacity." The
choice has fallen on Mr. McI. Messers,
and the compliments paid him yesterday by
the unofficial members give assurance that
if the business of the Sanitary Board is
conducted in the spirit of the Governor's
speeches in Council on the subject, Mr.
Messers may confidently count upon the
unanimous support and co-operation of the
Board.

On July 1st the revised rules governing the
importation of arms and ammunition into China
came into force.

The autumn manoeuvres of the Chinese
Army will take place on the 18th, 19th, 20th
and 21st November.

Seven cases of plague were notified during the
twenty-four hours ended yesterday, noon. This
brings up the year's total to 991.

The Board of Civil Administration has
ordered provinces to abolish provincial forces
and to establish police forces instead.

A Tientsin despatch reports that the freight
rates of the South Manchurian Railway will be
revised from July 1st, a general reduction being
made.

The Grand Council proposes to make Kalgan
an open port after the completion of the con-
struction of the Peking-Kalgan Railway. The
present superintendent will probably be replaced
by a Taoist.

One fourth of the opium houses in the Settle-
ment at Shanghai were closed on the 1st inst.
in accordance with the proclamation issued by
the Municipal Council and the Police. Lots
were drawn many weeks ago to decide which of
the houses should be included in the first lot to
be closed.

Mrs Pitt prosecuted a Chinese at the Magis-
trate yesterday for trespassing on the school
premises in Bonham Road. She had seen the
defendant in the servant's quarters the previous
day and wanted him off and when she saw him
again on Monday she locked him in a room and
sent for the police. Defendant was fined \$10.

Mr. J. Byrne-Hackett, late Secretary of the
Country Club, Shanghai, left for home aboard
the s.s. "American Maru." It was recently
announced, says the Mercury, that through
sickness Mr. Byrne-Hackett had temporarily
resigned from his position, and while it was
hoped that he would very shortly be able to
resume his duties his health was found to be
such as to necessitate his leaving Shanghai.
There was a very large crowd of friends at the
jetty to see him off, and many were the hearty
wishes for a speedy recovery.

The total cholera cases and deaths in the
Philippines since 1st January is given in a
Manila paper as 4,285 cases and 2,942 deaths.
The latest returns show that the epidemic is
"yielding slowly."

It is reported in Japan that the President of
the Mito Railway and Engine Works at
Nagasaki, who has recently returned from a
tour in China secured a contract for the con-
struction of three warships.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and
China, announces that the Right Hon. Lord
George Hamilton, G.C.S.I., has joined the
board of directors in succession to Mr. William
Christian, who has resigned after holding office
for thirty-four years.

Judge Smith, an American jurist who has
just returned to Manila from a holiday spent on
the China coast, praises the American diplomats
in China. He is reported to have said, "We
have there a fine set of officials, men jealous of
their country's standing in the eyes of foreigners,
ever anxious to promote America's interests,
and particularly well adapted to the require-
ments of their office."

A curious incident took place in Changsha
the other day. All the foreigners in the City
received a communication from the Taoist
requesting them to remain within their own
doors for a period of four days as a religious
festival was in progress, and the Taoist could
not hold himself responsible for the safety of
foreigners who would venture among the crowds
in the streets.

During the sittings of the commission at
Vancouver, B.C., to inquire into the losses
sustained by Chinese in the recent riots, a
Chinese witness gave an answer which, although
it caused "general laughter" at the time, may
nevertheless cause some people to ponder over
the more serious side. "Do you understand a
Christian oath?" asked the Commissioner, Mr.
Mackenzie King. "Just a few of them,"
answered the witness.

It is reported from Taichow, one of the pre-
fectural cities of Chekiang, that a soldier has
severely wounded a student of the Nanchien
school there, and that, as a protest, the whole
school have gone on "strike." The students
held a meeting, and it was decided to demand
the punishment of the soldier. Efforts are
being made by the school and the authorities to
persuade the students to resume work, but, so
far, without avail.

Fifty of Manila's leading Chinese merchants
were the hosts of Hon. Mr. Su-Yu-Teh,
retiring Chinese Consul General at Manila, at a
dinner given a week ago at the Hotel Metropole.
The dinner, says the Colonist, was served in
the roof garden which was gaily decorated with
the Chinese emblems with the Stars and
Stripes. An excellent menu was served and
during the course of the dinner an orchestra
played an excellent programme of music. A few
days later a dinner was given in honour of the
new Chinese Consul General, who has already
entered upon the duties of his office.

An unusually large number of members at-
tended at the Y. M. C. A. Parliament on
Monday evening to participate in the closing
debate of the Session and to express their
opinions upon the "Home Rule for Ireland"
question. Mr. Kingsbury introduced the
measure "That this Parliament affirms and
advocates the principle of Home Rule" and
was supported by Messrs. Crawford, Lowry,
Steedman and Jillings, and their assertions were
strongly criticised by Messrs. Fuller, Parker,
Cubey and Boyd. In view of the Government
retiring with the completion of the Session, a
ballot was not taken, but it was very evident
that the motion would have been rejected.

Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, Com-
mander-in-Chief of the British China Squadron,
arrived at Chemulpo on Sunday, the 21st June,
on board the despatch vessel *Alacrity*. The
following day the Admiral proceeded to Seoul,
and in company with Mr. Cookburn, British
Consul-General, paid a visit to H. E. the
Resident-General (Prince Ito) who received
them in full uniform. The following day Prince
Ito presented the Admiral to His Majesty
the Emperor of Korea. Commander Fuller of
the *Alacrity*, Secretary Mottion and Flag
Lieutenant Mulheux were also presented, and
at noon His Excellency entertained the dis-
tinguished visitor at lunch. Twenty-seven
covers were laid.

An International Race Club is being formed
in Shanghai. Many of the most respectable
and influential Chinese residents are according
their hearty support, and the native element,
which has hitherto had opportunity to partici-
pate in local horse racing, is expected to figure
largely in the meetings of the new Club. An
excellent site for the race course has been secured
in the Slocswell district, and the preliminary
work on the track is already in hand. The
headquarters of the Club will be at the premises
formerly known as E-Yuen Gardens, adjoining
the Taoist's Yamen on Bubbling Wall Road.
In a communication to the Press the Secretary
observes: "In view of the fact that at several
of the important Far Eastern ports, as Singa-
pore, Penang and Batavia, the local native and
Chinese sportsmen take an active part in horse
racing in conjunction with European residents,
there seems to be reason to suppose that there
is room in Shanghai for an institution in which
foreign and native sportsmen may successfully
co-operate in the sport of kings." Such co-
operation is now flourishing in Japan. No
gambling of any kind is to be permitted in
connection with the meetings of the Club, other
than betting on the results of the races, as
admitted and conducted by all other Race Clubs."

EVADING THE STAMP DUTY.

An interesting prosecution took place at the
Magistrate when the Crown Solicitor proceeded
against Wai Man, an accountant at 17, Jervois
Street, for failing to stamp a receipt over the
value of \$25. The defendant pleaded guilty
and was fined \$20, his Worship remarking that
the defendant was liable to a penalty of \$100.
However as that was the first prosecution that
had taken place for some time under the Stamp
Ordinance he imposed a small fine but the full
penalty would probably be imposed in future
cases.

As is well-known "old custom" among the
Chinese has been merely to chop each other's
books and in this way the revenue has suffered
but now that greater vigilance is being shown
by the authorities the Chinese business people
will realise the necessity of using stamps when
required on receipts.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

NEW INFANTRY COMPANY.

The first shoot of the new Infantry Company
took place at King's Park Range on Saturday
afternoon and Sunday morning, when spoons
presented by Lt.-Colonel Chapman were com-
peted for. On Saturday the changing light
and variable wind made good shooting very
difficult, but on Sunday the conditions were
much better and Sergeant Lapsley was an easy
first with a total of 87 out of a possible of 105
at 200, 500 and 800 yards ranges. The next
best scores were made by Privates Stewart,
Elliot, Gregory and Munday.

On the 18th inst. it is proposed to commence
a series of shoots for a Cup presented by Captain
Johnston, the Commanding Officer of the Com-
pany, and it is hoped that many more new
members will be enrolled during the next fort-
night and make the contest for this cup a
keen one. It is desired to make marksmanship
the strong feature of the Infantry Company,
and every assistance will be given to members
to enable them to excel with the rifle.

THE FLOOD.

THE RELIEF MEASURES.

The Flood Fund Bazaar, which is to be
opened on Friday, is probably the first attempt
by the Chinese to raise money by this Western
method, and all who have the ordinary feelings
of humanity will hope that the innovation will
prove successful and that a considerable sum
will be raised on behalf of the needy and
distressed who have been rendered destitute by
the appalling floods in the West and North
Rivers.

The Bazaar will be held in a huge matchbox
to be erected on a vacant piece of ground at
Shektonai, not far from the market. It is
reached by way of Hill Road. Arrangements
are being vigorously pushed forward. H.E. the
Governor has promised to open the Bazaar at
2.30 p.m. on Friday.

The Committee have received from Chinese
and Foreign firms numerous donations of
articles for sale at the Bazaar. Among the
foreign firms and residents who have contrib-
uted are Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Arnold,
Karberg & Co., Alex. Ross & Co., and W. G.
Humphreys & Co. Mrs. Kadoola has sent
\$50 to be invested in articles to be sold at
the Bazaar.

We direct attention to the appeal by the
Foreign Goods Dealers' Guild of Hongkong
which appears in our advertisement columns.
The list of subscriptions already received by the
guild totals \$6,273.65, of which about one half
has been contributed by foreign firms.

Our Canton Correspondent writes:—
The Theatre Guild have given a handsome
donation of several thousands of dollars to the
Relief Society. The fund was raised from
tickets sold at the Tung Kwan Theatre. They
selected the best actors, who performed for
three days and four nights, and notwithstanding
the high price of the tickets, the house was
full day and night.

On Saturday last Mr. Paul H. King, Com-
missioner of Customs here, took the lead in
inaugurating a Relief Fund amongst the Custom
staff, and in a short time the list ran up
to several hundreds of dollars. Both the foreign
and Chinese staffs subscribed most generously
towards it.

Mr. H. H. Fox, Acting British Consul-
General here, has also proposed to raise a
Relief Fund. He sent a circular round to the
British Community a few days ago, but the
subscription is not out yet.

DEATH OF MR. R. B. ALLEN.

It is with deep regret that we ("N.C. Daily
News") learn of the death of Mr. R. B. Allen,
Manager of the Shanghai Branch of Messrs.
Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co. and a partner in
that firm. A fortnight ago Mr. Allen was taken
to the Victoria Nursing Home and shortly
afterwards he was found to be suffering from
cerebral tumor. For the last few days he
remained practically all the time in an uncon-
scious condition, and finally passed away last
night shortly after ten o'clock. Throughout
his brief illness he appeared to suffer little ex-
pains. Mr. Richard Baugh Allen, who was 43
years of age, came out to China thirty years ago
to join the firm of Messrs. Oliver and Co., of
Poonchow, as a tea-taster, and was afterwards
manager of that firm's branch at Canton.
Fifteen years later when the tea business had
entered upon less prosperous times Mr. Allen
joined Messrs. Caldbeck, Macgregor and Co.
at Shanghai, and has been connected with the
Settlement ever since.

TELEGRAMS.

["DAILY PRESS" EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.]

THE SCOTT-BERESFORD FEUD.

FURTHER TROUBLE.

LONDON, July 7th.

It is reported that Rear-Admiral
Sir Percy Scott has refused to obey
an order given by Lord Charles
Beresford, Commander-in-Chief of the
Channel Squadron, Sir Percy Scott
stating that obedience would inevitably
result in a collision.

TERRIBLE FIGHTING IN PERSIA.

LONDON, July 7th.

Heavy fighting is reported from
Persia, twelve thousand men being
killed at Tabriz.

NOTABLE WEDDING.

LONDON, July 7th.

The Gould-Sagan wedding is ex-
pected to take place in London to-day.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN JAPAN.

Tokyo, July 7th.

It is fully expected that Marquis
Katsura will take office as Minister of
War and Premier, and proceed to
form a Cabinet at an early date.

[REUTERS' SERVICE.]

THE DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL.

LONDON, July 5th.

The Parliamentary Committee has pro-
nounced strongly in favour of the Daylight
Saving Bill, and recommends that clocks
be advanced sixty minutes in April, and
turned back in September.

THE PHILIPPINES.

LONDON, July 5th.

A mass meeting held at Manila has
adopted a petition to the American people
praying them to grant to the Philippines
free trade with America.

ITALY AND ABYSSINIA.

LONDON, July 5th.

Signor Tittoni, Italian Minister of Foreign
Affairs, announces that an expedition will
be despatched immediately to occupy the
territory ceded to Italy by the recent de-
limitation convention in Abyssinia.

MOROCCO.

LONDON, July 5th.

Abdul Aziz has appointed Abdul Sodek,
Governor of Tangier.

HEAVY WEIGHT PEDESTRIANS.

The heavy weight champions of the Civil
Service Cricket Club and of the Police Recre-
ation Club, C. Bond and Inspector McHardy,
had a running match at the Happy Valley on
Monday afternoon. The veteran Inspector,
who has not lost his speed with increasing years
and increasing weight, outpaced his opponent
one yard in a hundred. They sprinted well,
but Bond dropped behind about seven yards,
the winner's time being 12 seconds. There was
a great deal of excitement over the event, both
competitors having plenty of supporters.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Notice has been given that the following
questions will be asked at the next meeting of
the Legislative Council:—

"By Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock.—With reference
to the statement in paragraph 5 of the Despatch
of the Officer Administering the Government to
the Secretary of State, dated the 24th June,
1907, to the effect that 'the great majority of
the contributors, and all the directors, except
the Chairman, were opposed to the transfer of
the fund' will the Government state whether
any and, if so, how many of the contributors
who were then opposed to the transfer of the
fund, have given notice to the Government of
any alteration of their views on the subject?"

"By Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart.—Have the
Government taken steps to ascertain the
individual wishes of contributors to the Widows'
and Orphans' Fund, with regard to the
Government's proposal to take over that fund;
and, if so, will the Government inform the
members of this Council how many subscribers
are for, and how many against, that proposal?"
The second reading of the Bill was down for
to-morrow, but the meeting has been postponed.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 27th July.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR
FRANCIS PIGOTT).

A JURY ACTION.

The action Leung Lai Wan and others v.
Reuter, Broekmann & Co., was resumed. The
plaintiffs claimed damages from defendants for
having illegally procured the Chinese authorities
to issue a warrant for the arrest of plaintiffs
and wrongful seizure of premises. Mr. M. W.
Stade, instructed by Mr. C. F. Dixon of Messrs
Hastings and Hastings, appeared for the plain-
tiffs, defendants being represented by the Hon.
Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. E.
Lang of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon.
The special jury was composed of Messrs. R.
Shewan (foreman), Richard, Martin, T. F.
Fong, J. A. Jupp, A. W. A. Becker, A. S. D.
Cousland, and G. W. C. Pemberton.

Mr. Pollock opened the proceedings by draw-
ing his Lordship's particular attention to the
provisions of section 26 of the Evidence Ordinance
No. 2 of 1889 with regard to the books of
account. That section related to entries in
books of account kept in the course of business,
and he submitted that that could only refer to
entries as to mere matters of account. In other
words, sub-section 1 of section 26 could not
possibly refer to an entry of a partnership
agreement in a book. This provision was a
rather special legal one in our Ordinance, and
rather extended the provision as to banking
accounts which his Lordship knew was in force
in this Colony. He ventured to submit that
entries referred to meant entries as to matters
of account.

His Lordship—I am disposed to agree with
you.

Mr. Pollock—I think your Lordship will see
the important distinction?

His Lordship—Yes.

Mr. Pollock—Therefore any entries contained
in that book under "long" names would not
fall under this provision.

Mr. Stide—With regard to the actual agree-
ment, I produced the writer thereof, and he
proved he wrote the whole of it himself, and all
the "long" names. It obtains no greater
validity by reason of being written in a book
of account, but with regard to the rest
of the book which is strictly a book of
account referring to payments year by year
and interest of various partners taken from the
cash books, some 70 of which were produced,
that falls strictly within the provision.

Mr. Pollock—The link is missing. The man
called to support the partnership agreement
says he wrote it out himself, therefore anything
in that partnership agreement with reference to
"long" names does not carry any weight, or
have any sanction in this provision of the
Ordinance. Your Lordship, I understand, puts
the next point in this way: assuming the jury
to be in the defendants' favour as to these three
men, Li Lai-san and the other two, being part-
ners in the Chung Loong and Kwong Hing
Cheong firms, would it not be possible to bring
an action for damages against the other nine
partners, or some of them?

His Lordship—That is one way of putting it.
What I mean is this: Assuming this to be the
law, these three men being partners in the
Chung Loong, their property could have been
seized by the process which has been adopted by
the German Consul and the Chinese Authorities.
Yet that would not justify the seizure of the
other nine partners.

Mr. Pollock—I shall impress upon the jury
that there is no satisfactory evidence before
them about the others being partners. Pro-
ceeding, Counsel again referred his Lordship
to the pleadings. It was alleged in paragraph
6 of the statement of claim that they made
false representations, not with regard to the
partners in the Chung Loong firm as a whole,
but they made allegations to the effect
that certain three plaintiffs were partners
in the Chung Loong firm. With regard
to the question of absconding and hiding,
Sir Henry Berkeley had dealt with that
point fully, and showed that a letter of the
German Consul complained of did not bear the
interpretation put upon it. If the jury came
to the conclusion that the three persons said to
be partners in the Chung Loong firm were
partners, then that was an answer to the al-
legation with regard to hiding. His Lordship would
see, following on other concussive paragraphs
of the pleadings, that all the acts which
subsequently occurred were stated as having
been the consequence of the letter of February
21st, 1907, written by the German Consul.

His Lordship—The allegations in paragraph
4 are that three men are partners in the Chung
Loong; that they absconded, and that they were
in hiding. It further stated that the Chung
Loong were indebted in the sum of \$53,000 and
that the plaintiffs and their said firm, the
Kwong Hing Cheong, were liable to pay the
said sum of \$53,000.

Mr. Pollock—The allegation is that these
men were partners in the Chung Loong firm;
it does not extend to implicating anybody else at
all. The seizure complained of was the seizure
by the Pun Yu Magistrate, the magistrate who
has jurisdiction in Houam. We would submit
that that seizure was a judicial act, the act of
process issuing from the Yamen magistrate
having jurisdiction.

His Lordship—It is a well-known cause
of action, wrongfully and maliciously setting a
foreign law in motion, and I do not attribute
any great difference in proceedings in French
courts in Saigon to the proceedings of Chinese
courts in Canton. It has been laid down in two
cases that an action will lie for wrongfully and
maliciously, and without reasonable and prob-
able cause, getting a foreign process in motion.

Mr. Pollock—Obviously the onus of proof in
a malicious prosecution rests upon the plaintiff.
He has to show that it was unreasonable to take
any proceedings at all.

Further evidence was called, and the case
adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The newly constituted Sanitary Board met yesterday afternoon for the first time. Mr. C. Mol. Messer, the new president, took the chair, and another new personality was Dr. A. Gibson, as secretary. Dr. Pearce being also included in the personnel. Those present were: Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Hon. Mr. Irving, Dr. Pearce, Dr. Macfarlane, Lieut. Colonel Reid, Mr. Shelton Hooper, and Mr. Lau Chai-pak. The acting Secretary, Dr. Gibson, read the following letter addressed to the Secretary of the Sanitary Board:

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong,
7th July, 1906.

Sir—I am directed to acquaint you for information of the Board that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. C. Mol. Messer to be administrative Head of the Sanitary Department and Dr. A. Gibson, C.V.S., to act as Secretary to the Board during the absence on leave of Mr. G. A. Woodcock, with effect from 2nd inst.—I am Sir, your obedient servant.

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER—I think before we proceed with the ordinary business that I shall be expressing the views and feelings of all members of this Board in congratulating you on the appointment. The Governor has conferred on you as head of the administrative sanitary department and ex-officio president of this Board. His Excellency, in introducing the new legislation, and in outlining the constitution that he proposed to adopt for the administration of sanitary affairs in this Colony, said that he proposed to substitute for the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health as head of this Board a body with experience of Chinese and their language and of proved administrative ability. I am sure that the Board will agree that the Governor has fulfilled that promise in appointing yourself. In looking over your record since you have been in the Colony for a little over ten years, I find you have acted as assistant Colonial Secretary, as magistrate, and you have been a member of the Legislative and Executive Councils. You must have proved your efficiency very early in your career because I find that you became a member of the Executive Council before you had ceased to be a cadet, and therefore we may look forward with pleasure to our association with you in presiding at this Board. I think that the future should be a period of usefulness, usefulness to the Government and usefulness to the Colony in general. If the administration is to be a success it can only be so with the co-operation of the unofficial members of this Board, and speaking for myself, and the other unofficial members of this Board you can be assured of that co-operation. You have a right to look to us for support in all deliberations and consideration of the various matters that come before us, and that support will be cheerfully given. We, on the other hand, have a right—and we shall look to you to see that we have it—we have a right to be treated equally with the officials and with you yourself. When presiding here you will not preside over a department of your own, but over a body, every member of which has equal rights with yourself. You are *ex officio* inter pares, with the exception that in addition to your deliberative vote you have a casting vote. I hope that in the era of usefulness which I trust we are now entering, there will be concerted action so that the sanitary condition of the Colony will be improved and the Colony raised once more to a clean and wholesome country in which the world's trade may be carried on without fear of contracting that terrible scourge which for the past decade has made a periodical appearance and hampered trade to a certain extent. In the past there has been a great outcry against the Sanitary laws of this Colony but I can say from experience that I don't think the fault has been with the law but with its administration. By that I don't mean administration solely by the head of the department but by the whole department. The subordinates have had too free a hand, not enough supervision to see that they carried out their duties intelligently and with that commonsense which had been adopted, would have prevented a great deal of friction and a great deal of the corruption which has taken place in the past. This Board has been twitted in the Legislative Council with not exercising powers that we had, contained in the proviso of the Public Health Ordinance, and I think that that twitting was quite justifiable. It was intended when that law was passed to be sufficiently drastic to cover the worst case of property in the Colony, but it was intended by the proviso to make it sufficiently elastic that in sticking to the letter of the law we should accept its spirit and be more free with exemptions, when applied for. I think if that had been done there would have been less friction and less cause for altering the law on the part of the Government. With these words I would, on behalf of the Board and of the unofficial members, congratulate you on your appointment. I think before I sit down it would not be out of place to say a few words about our late president, Dr. Atkinson. I can speak with regard to Dr. Atkinson better than I can with regard to yourself, for we have been intimately associated ever since he arrived in the Colony in November, 1887. He arrived a stranger to this Colony and had one of the most arduous tasks any man ever had, and I think that this is proved by some words which I shall quote from a speech made by Governor Des Voeux on the 30th November of that year. Dr. Atkinson had been in the Colony then something less than a fortnight. The Governor said:

very strongly with his extreme desire to place things in a better condition, and I think it would only be fair to wait a few weeks and see what he does before we enter on a commission of enquiry which would give a deal of trouble and very likely do no more good than he will be able to do himself. He has impressed me as likely to be an efficient man, at all events he is a very zealous man. That was a prophesy concerning Dr. Atkinson's career within a fortnight of his arrival, and on looking over his first report six or seven months after, the Governor said he was "very much surprised and perplexed at the state of affairs then existing at the hospital. The two European ward-masters were on their trial for robbing patients under their care and the nursing staff was in a state of disorganisation." With regard to the criminal charge we have nothing to do, but with regard to the nursing organisation most of us know the state of efficiency in which it is now, and that is all due to Dr. Atkinson. I will now say a few words speaking rather as a member of the Commission than as a member of this Board, because it was through the Commission making the report it did, and recommending the Government that the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Health should relinquish his duties as head of the Sanitary Department and therefore as president of this Board, that the change has been made. This Board, that the change has been made. The Commission in making that recommendation had nothing but praise for Dr. Atkinson as a man, as a doctor and as a conscientious Government Officer. But we pointed out to the Government that as he was a member of the Executive Council, Medical Adviser to the Governor, head of the Medical Staff, etc., we felt that it would not be human to ask a man to devote so much time to the administration of this department as its importance merited. On these grounds, and these alone, the change was recommended. The Government, when it read the criticisms in the Commission report, acquiesced in that, and Dr. Atkinson himself quite agreed with it, and said that he could not continue the labours in this department with justice to himself. Therefore we were all agreed that some change should take place. The change, the Commission recommended, however, was not adopted by the Government, but that is a controversial matter which I am not going to allude to today. They proposed in the alternative one which I for one am willing to give a trial, and to give every support I can to the incumbent of the office which you now hold. By this legislation another change was effected, and we join the services of the Captain Superintendent of Police, Captain Lyons. It is with very much regret that we heard he had to leave the Board, because he always brought to the consideration and deliberation of matters before us an even mind and common sense, besides which he had served on the Sanitary Board in the Straits Settlements. His place, however, has been taken by the Medical Officer of Health, and although I was one of the most strenuous to oppose the appointment because I looked upon him virtually as a servant, and being a member I considered he would be stultified in giving a vote, His Excellency has stated that that officer is not to be bound by any opinion but his own. I need not say any more except the personal comment at this time of this officer. I am sure that this Colony has never had a man with a higher technical knowledge of hygiene since a similar officer has been appointed by the Government.

Mr. LAU CHAI-PAK—I have great pleasure in endorsing the none too just and laudatory remarks which have just come from the eloquent tongue of our common colleague and friend, Mr. Hooper. During the eight years since I have had the honour to serve on this Board I have noticed that on no few occasions there have been cases which would disturb the equanimity of mind of the average man, and it is to the credit of our late president that he invariably conducted the case with great tact and in a manner which I should say was very generous, and he generally showed himself to be courteous and patient. Such qualities from the chairman of a semi-official body like the Sanitary Board are to be appreciated, and in my opinion, can only be in the possession of an official of no mean capabilities. Of Captain Lyons, my knowledge is not of so long standing, but what little I have seen of him is quite sufficient to enable me to come to the conclusion that he is a gentleman, who is ever ready to hear both sides, and to give fair play and justice. As regards yourself, Sir, I have known you since you acted as Registrar General some years ago. At that time in all my dealings with you I found you always fair, reasonable, considerate and courteous, and with plenty of common sense which, I hope, will now pervade your administration of the new Ordinance. With these few words I join in wishing you a hearty welcome to this Board, and in doing so I would extend a hearty welcome to our friend Dr. Pearce whose sensibility and sound advice have guided many of us for many years. Dr. Pearce's abilities and good points are too well known to need my mentioning. As regards the other matters referred to by our friend Mr. Hooper, he has said sufficient and expressed the opinions of the other members of the Board so fully that I need scarcely refer to them again.

The President—I thank you for the kind remarks made, gentlemen, and trust your prophecies will come true.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—I thank Mr. Hooper and Mr. Lau Chai-pak very much.

RAT RETURNS.

The rat returns for the weeks ended June 27th and July 4th showed that 200 and 128 rats respectively had been caught. Of the former number nine were infected and of the latter none.

Captain LYONS minuted—The great falling in the numbers caught calls for more vigorous action in the campaign against rats.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death-rate for the week ended June 27th was 31.6 per 1,000 in the British and foreign community as compared with 16.4 in the corresponding week of last year and 36.1 per 1,000 of the whole Colony as compared with 24.1 per 1,000 in the corresponding week of last year.

A CANTON TRAGEDY.

CHINESE LAW AND JUSTICE.

Our Canton Correspondent writes:—

A rather peculiar murder case came on for trial before the Manchu sub-prefect the other day. This Court is established for the exclusive purpose of trying cases in which Manchus and Bannermen are involved, and the sub-prefect is always a Manchu official appointed by the Throne. A Manchu, named Pak charged his son-in-law's father, a wealthy Manchu named Ying See, with having murdered his (the prosecutor's) daughter by beating her to death. Ying See pleaded that deceased had committed suicide.

In the afternoon of the 3rd instant the sub-prefect went to Ying See's house with two expert undertakers of the Nam Hoi Magistracy to examine the corpse in order to find out whether deceased died a natural death, committed suicide, or was murdered. After a lengthy examination both undertakers pronounced that they were unable to state whether death had resulted through violence or suicide. It appears that it had been common talk among the people of the neighbourhood that deceased had been constantly ill-treated by his husband and the father-in-law and one of Ying See's servants spread the report that deceased was brutally murdered.

While the examination was proceeding inside the house a large crowd (over 1,000 men) had collected outside to learn the result of the examination. On hearing the unsatisfactory statement of the official undertakers the crowd became wild with rage. Many rushed into the house, and accused the undertakers of receiving bribes from the defendant, and demanded that other expert undertakers be at once sent for from the Pui Yu Magistracy to examine the body. Others who were outside pounced upon the sub-prefect's petty officers, chair-coolies and his retinue of official followers and gave them a severe thrashing. The sub-prefect on hearing the wild shouts and disturbances made by the angry mob, pacified them by telegraphing a request to the Pui Yu Magistracy to dispatch post-haste two of his expert undertakers, and at the same time he took the precaution to telegraph for reinforcements from several police stations. Shortly afterwards the Pui Yu Magistracy replied that his official undertakers had all gone up country.

The Police reinforcements had not arrived by 8 p.m. and the sub-prefect dared not leave the house unprotected, so in order to keep the mob occupied he called Ying See's son-in-law to the house. During the investigation the latter stated that his father did not beat deceased and had nothing to do with her death; but that deceased was strangled to death by his sister. Reinforcements of police having arrived, the sub-prefect adjourned examination of the body and left with ample protection.

On the following day he came with two other undertakers of the Nam Hoi Magistracy who upon investigation stated that deceased had died through violence as there were two marks on the neck and several on her chest. The son was thereupon arrested and the case was tried in the sub-prefect's Court on the 5th inst. Ying See's daughter was summoned to appear before the Court at the trial. She stated that she only beat deceased twice on the head with her fan, but that her mother (Ying See's wife) had beaten deceased to death. Ying See's wife was immediately summoned and when she appeared in Court she callously admitted that she killed her daughter-in-law by beating her. The mother-in-law was sentenced to a short term of imprisonment.

The case seems to have been a very mixed-up affair. The mother-in-law took the responsibility when she saw that the crime was discovered. Any other member of the family would have suffered a severe sentence, death in the case of the sister, deportation in the case of the husband, but Chinese law allows extraordinary powers to the father and mother-in-law with regard to their daughter-in-law, and they have been able to escape severe punishment.

What has become of the revised Penal Code?

MARINE MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

Tuesday, July 7th.

BRODER HON. COMMANDER BASIL R. H. TAYLOR, R.N. (MARINE MAGISTRATE).

ANORING WITHIN FAIRWAY LIMITS.

The masters of two cargo boats were prosecuted by Constable Pepperill of the Water Police for anchoring their boats within the limits of the southern fairway. Both defendants admitted the charge and fines of \$10 were imposed; the alternative in each instance being one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

EXCESS PASSENGERS.

Lance-Sergeant Edwards proceeded against Tsui King, master of the steam launch *Lo Cheung* for carrying 50 persons in excess of the number allowed by his licence. Defendant, who was represented by Mr. D. V. Stevenson from the Office of Messrs. Deacon, Lockes and Hooper, pleaded not guilty.

Prosecutor stated that he boarded defendant's vessel just outside the harbour limits between Green Island and Stonecutters. He found 192 persons on board, whereas the number allowed in local trade limits was 133.

Cross-examined, the Sergeant said he counted the passengers with defendant, who made no reply when told they were in excess of the licensed number.

Defendant stated that his launch ran between Hongkong and Samahai. On the day in question he left Hongkong with 183 passengers, the number he was allowed to carry.

The Court found the defendant guilty of the charge and imposed a fine of \$40, in default six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

THE PROPOSED TYPHOON REFUGE.

MEMORANDUM BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

The following correspondence has been forwarded by the Chamber of Commerce for publication:

Colonial Secretary's Office.

20th May, 1906.

Sir—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1st May on the subject of Light Dues, with its enclosures.

His Excellency is anxious that your Chamber should be in full possession of the reasons which have led him to the conclusions he has formed, and he has therefore desired me to enclose a Memorandum which he has prepared on the subject for your information.

I enclose the plans and estimates for the scheme, which, as you are aware from the official reports in the *Gazette* of the proceedings of the Legislative Council, have already been submitted to the Public Works Committee of that body. The subject of the cost of the shelter is dealt with in His Excellency's Memorandum.

With regard to the question asked in the anti-protestant paragraph of your letter, I am to state that the revenue derived from the increased fees on cargo boats, lighters and waterboats was made in the interest of General Revenue since it was considered that the fees were low.

The increase based on last year's receipts will amount to \$18,000, per annum.

With regard to the suggestion put forward in the paragraph of the enclosure referred to in your letter I am to state that the Government is at a loss to understand how such a tax could be properly distributed seeing that much of the underwriting is done outside the Colony, and I am to enquire how your Committee would propose to give effect to their suggestion.

I am, Sir, Sir,

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary to
The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

MEMORANDUM BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

BE LIGHT DUES.

Reasons for undertaking Typhoon Shelter.—The real necessity and urgency of this work has been pressed repeatedly upon Government by the Unofficial Members of Council, and my predecessor gave a pledge that Government would undertake it without delay, and would contribute a sum equal to that subscribed by the community towards the Typhoon relief fund, viz.—\$275,000. The balance of this fund was handed over to Government. It amounted to \$35,804 and has been earmarked as a fund for relief in similar circumstances in the future. On my arrival in the Colony it devolved upon me to make good Sir Matthew Nathan's pledge, and when the estimates were discussed in September last Messrs. Osborne and Hewitt again very strongly urged the necessity for the shelter and blamed Government for delay. From what I can gather they voiced the wishes of the community in their desire for a shelter. This delay had arisen in the first place owing to a protracted discussion as to the comparative merits of different sites, and in the second place to the time required for making a reliable estimate, and in endeavouring to find an alternative and cheaper scheme.

Cost.—When the project was first broached a rough calculation for foot run was made merely for the purpose of contrasting the comparative cost of the different sites proposed, and the estimate at Hongkong was on this basis of calculation put down at \$600,000. When this site had finally been decided upon, a detailed estimate was prepared by Mr. Boulton, then whom there was probably no one better qualified for the task.

It was received last Autumn, and communicated by me to the Council in my speech when introducing the estimates. The amount was \$1,400,000, and the great increase was stated to be partly due to a rise in the price of materials and partly to the fact that the typhoon of September, 1905, had shown that much higher and more substantial seawall would be required than had been contemplated, before the experience gained by that disastrous gale. This sum appeared to me to be beyond our present resources, and I referred it back to Mr. Boulton with a view to the preparation of a less costly scheme which would, if possible, give partial protection, and be capable of later development as funds permitted. The result was that after careful revision the estimate was reduced to \$1,540,000 instead of \$1,400,000, and that he reported that no partial or progressive scheme was possible. The alternative was to decrease the area of the shelter from 168 acres to 57 acres at a cost of \$853,800. The Engineer's report and estimates were referred to the Public Works Committee of the Legislative Council of which the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce is a member and they unanimously recommended the larger scheme at Mongkok.

Method of meeting Cost.—After a most careful investigation of the liabilities of the Government and the available revenue which I need not detail at length in this Memorandum but which on fitting opportunity I shall fully explain, I satisfied myself that I had no alternative but to raise the light dues temporarily in the way which has been described to the Chamber of Commerce.

The following are among the reasons which led me to this conclusion.

(a) On the last occasion when an increase of revenue was found to be necessary (in 1901) practically all licences were largely increased but no additional contribution was asked from shipping. Its ability to contribute was recognised, but it was reserved for the next occasion which might arise.

(b) This liability was recognised in December 1896 when the unofficial members with one exception unanimously recommended that the imposition of a permanent tonnage duty of 13 cents in addition to the 1 cent light dues on the grounds that shipping should pay its fair proportion to the revenue.

(c) It arises from the fact that shipping benefits directly both in respect of capital expenditure on works, and in respect of increased efficiency in administrative machinery. In 1842 the Colony could offer nothing but a harbour infested by pirates and ships wrecked from a waterless near Aberdeen. There is now efficient police protection, hospitals, markets, better and cheaper water supply, various useful institutions like the Sailors Home, good wharves and piers for forwarding and discharging cargo, and a well equipped and equipped Department of Marine and Navigation.

(d) The principle that shipping should contribute to general revenue is recognised by the United States of America, which assigned shipping dues to national debt charges, defence, and general revenue. In reply to a suggestion from the Shipping Interest in 1897 Mr. Chamberlain replied:—"It is at any time heretofore urgent necessity should arise for increasing general revenue it should be prepared to consider any proposal for again raising the shipping dues" and again in 1902 he gave it as his view that a special tax should be levied to cover any harbour improvement.

(e) In my view the typhoon shelter is a great "harbour improvement" which moreover directly benefits Ocean shipping in that lighters and

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Hongkong, 7th July, 1906.

small craft which now bolt for the inadequate refuge at Causeway Bay on the first indication of a typhoon and so leave the Ocean, strewed sometimes I believe, for several days unable to load or discharge, and thus subject them to much delay and expense, will, when the new typhoon refuge is built, be able to remain to the last moment secure in the knowledge that they can gain an entrance, however late.

If, however, this direct benefit to Ocean shipping should be disputed, the principle put forward in (c) and (d) go to show that Shipping is liable for contribution to any harbour improvement and even to purposes of general revenue.

(f) It has been argued that the imposition of any dues beyond the amount actually spent on lights and buoys would mean that Hongkong would no longer be a "Free Port." A "Free Port" is one in which no Customs dues are charged. Copenhagen, a free port, charges the equivalent of six pence a ton, while Shanghai charges the equivalent of 14 cents per ton.

Others have urged that the Proclamation of 1842 made exemption of all dues an increase would violate that pledge. The Freeportism was not in the nature of a treaty or pledge to third parties but was merely a statement of the policy of the day viz.—to attract commerce to a new and undeveloped port. The policy of the day is to charge a very moderate rate for improvements effected on behalf of shipping.

(g) It has been urged that the Colony owes its prosperity to shipping which would avoid the Port if dues are levied. There are those who maintain that shipping which would avoid the Port for dues so small as these, would better away. The dues were raised to 21 cents between April 1890 and October 1897 to pay for the Gap Rock Lighthouse, and between these dates the tonnage increased from 4,393,733 tons to 6,063,640 tons. The inducement of ships to come to this port is not that they have nothing to pay, but in order to earn freights, and proportionately as Hongkong becomes an industrial centre her shipping will increase. Our geographical position is equally advantageous to us as an industrial centre as it is a Port of Call.

(h) The Chamber of Commerce appears to contend that the amount imposed upon shipping is too great, and that other interests should contribute a portion. Only half of the cost is asked from the shipping, and though I am not at present able to forecast the financial requirements of next year and shall not be in a position to do so till the draft estimates are before me, I fear that the shipping interest is by no means likely to be the only one which will have to submit to increased taxation, looking to the large increase of revenue necessary for payment of interest on railway expenditure, the fall in exchange, the prospect of a decline in opium revenue, and the continued loss due to discount on subsidiary coins.

The Chamber of Commerce urge that the sum to be raised should be spread over a longer term of years, with a proper value decrease in the extra dues. There is no point which has been more strongly emphasised by the representatives of the community in Council than that the construction of the refuge should be pushed with the utmost rapidity, and should not be allowed to occupy so long a time as the Post Office and Law Courts are doing. A period of five years has been estimated for the work, but if it should take longer than that time, it may be possible to spread the contribution for the last year or two over a longer period. Government however is not able to supply the capital for the commencement of the work, and to rely on gradually recouping itself over a long series of years, or, in view of the existing loans which amount to above one tenth of revenue, am I able to recommend to the Secretary of State, nor would he agree to a proposal for a loan for such a purpose. I do not enter into this matter in detail in this Memorandum however, since it has already extended to considerable length.

F. D. LYNARD.

8th May, 1906.

MEMO. BY THE HON. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

I beg to submit the accompanying plan and section of the proposed breakwater at Mongkok and the following report:—

The plan shows, in red, the long breakwater originally proposed, and, in green, a short breakwater now suggested, but not recommended. The section shows a design which has been prepared after full consideration of the effects of the 1906 typhoon.

The bulk of the work could be carried out by native contractors. The concrete blockwork is the only part of the structure which would have to be carried out departmentally, and very little special plant would be required for it. A dredger would have to be hired from the Dock Company or Messrs. Pouchard Lowther & Co., for the purpose of excavating the trench for the foundations.

The blockwork is expensive but necessary, because three tons is the maximum weight of the boulders to be got by junks, and such blocks are too small to withstand the action of the sea at or near low tide level. The concrete blocks would extend down to 7 feet below Ordnance Datum, at which depth the three-ton boulders would not be liable to disturbance by the waves.

I estimate the cost of this design at \$370,000 per lineal foot, and the total cost of the long breakwater as follows:—

4,000 lineal feet @ \$92.50 \$370,000

Extra labour and materials at heads 60,000

Total \$430,000

The actual cross-section of the long breakwater at any point would not differ materially from the average cross-section shown in the accompanying plan. The average cross-section is shown in the accompanying plan, and by the soundings in the Admiralty Charts, the average cross-section of the short breakwater, or of any other breakwater in the neighbourhood of it, would approximate closely to the average cross-section shown.

With reference to the question of bringing within certain limits the cost of any works to be undertaken, I have to say that nothing but a complete breakwater would be of any practical use, as the Observatory records of the

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Hongkong, 2nd July, 1906. 33

1906 typhoon alone, are sufficient to show (vide attached Diagram showing the average hourly direction and velocity of the wind during the typhoon on the morning of the 16th September, 1906).

The short breakwater suggested on the plan would give a sheltered area equal to Causeway Bay. This would be worth having, but there would seem to be too many expensive difficulties in the way to admit of the suggestion being acted on.

The area is small, and the width of the entrance would have to be proportionately small; but the north entrance cannot be placed close to the north shore, owing to a rocky shoal which exists at that point. A jetty would therefore be constructed on the shoal, and the entrance would be immediately to the South of it, as shown on the plan.

The estimated cost of the short breakwater, and the jetty is as follows:—

1,910 lineal feet of breakwater at \$370 \$717,800

Extra labour and materials at heads 60,000

Jetty 108,000.00

885,800.00

The area enclosed by the short breakwater would be liable to become so packed with small craft as to cause a serious obstruction to the marine frontage abutting on the area; and seas running off the southeast end of the breakwater would impinge on the marine frontage immediately south of the entrance.

To avoid complicated claims from the lot owners affected it would probably be necessary to resume all the lots between Kowloon Marine Lot 32 and Kowloon Marine Lot 39 and strengthen the sea wall between the south entrance and Kowloon Marine Lot 39.

J. F. B.

28th September, 1907.

[The Chamber's reply to the Memorandum will appear in to-morrow's issue.—ED.]

HONGKONG WATER POLO ASSOCIATION.

Appended is the list of fixtures:—

First Round—V.R.C. v. 37th Co. R.G.A., C.Y.C. v. 38th Co. R.G.A., "Tamar" v. 33rd Co. R.G.A., R.H.K.Y.C. v. Royal Engineers. To be completed by July 11th.

Second Round—V.R.C. v. 38th Co. R.G.A., C.Y.C. v. 33rd Co. R.G.A., "Tamar" v. Royal Engineers, R.H.K.Y.C. v. 37th Co. R.G.A. To be completed by July 18th.

Third Round—V.R.C. v. 33rd Co. R.G.A., C.Y.C. v. Royal Engineers, "Tamar" v. 37th Co. R.G.A., R.H.K.Y.C. v. 38th Co. R.G.A. To be completed by July 25th.

Fourth Round—V.R.C. v. Royal Engineers, C.Y.C. v. 37th Co. R.G.A., "Tamar" v. 38th Co. R.G.A., R.H.K.Y.C. v. 33rd Co. R.G.A. To be completed by August 1st.

Fifth Round—V.R.C. v. C.Y.C., "Tamar" v. R.H.K.Y.C., 37th Co. R.G.A. v. 38th Co. R.G.A., R.G.A. v. Royal Engineers. To be completed by August 8th.

Sixth Round—V.R.C. v. "Tamar" C.Y.C. v. R.H.K.Y.C., 37th Co. R.G.A. v. 38th Co. R.G.A., 38th Co. R.G.A. v. Royal Engineers. To be completed by August 15th.

Seventh Round—V.R.C. v. R.H.K.Y.C., C.Y.C. v. "Tamar", 38th Co. R.G.A. v. 37th Co. R.G.A., Royal Engineers v. 38th Co. R.G.A. To be completed by August 22nd.

Referee—Mr. T. Meek.

Official goal-keepers—A. A. Alves, E. Herbst, Staff Sergeant W. Western, Sergeant Hall, P. Walton, Cook, Baker, Whittle, and Supper Burgess.

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Hongkong, 26th February, 1908. 401

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NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

AMERICAN ASIATIC S.S. COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship

"INDREMAVO,"

Captain E. A. Thirkell, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company Limited, Kowloon and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, the 13th inst. at 3 P.M.

All claims must be presented within fifteen days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SHAW, TOMES & CO.

General Agents.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1908. 1043

FROM EUROPE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

"SAXONIA,"

Captain Habel, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Underigned, and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before To-day.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed at Consignees' risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, the 13th inst. at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERICA LINE.

Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1908. 1042

S.S. "TOURNAI."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London, as

U.S.A. "Melos" from Havre or "Ville d'Arret" from Bordeaux ex "V. d'Arret" in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Optional Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon To-day, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Underigned. Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 15th inst. or they will not be recognized.

All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 15th inst. at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

F. NALIN

Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1908. 3

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA

(Florio and Rubattino United Companies).

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM BOMBAY AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"CAPRI"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon To-day, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Underigned. Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 15th inst. or they will not be recognized.

All damaged packages will be examined on MONDAY, the 15th inst. at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

GARLOWITZ & CO.

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Hongkong, 6th July, 1908. 4

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THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON CONGRESS.

The delegates present at the Fifth International Cotton Congress, which has been held last month in Paris, may fairly congratulate themselves on the progress which has been made since the first Congress met at Zurich about four years ago. Mr. Cruppi, the French Minister of Commerce and Industry, who took the chair at the opening, delivered an address in which, with a warmth of language suited to the occasion, he gave a glowing picture of the usefulness of the International Cotton Federation which had organized the movement. According to him, the chief object of the federation was to group together the manufacturers in the struggle against speculation, "which disturbed normal operations, and in making illegitimate profits exercised a regular tyranny on those who spun and wove cotton as well as on those who planted it." This is an attack on our old acquaintance the middleman, of whose approaching defeat and destruction we are from time to time confidently assured by anti-asiatic persons. No one would suppose, from the remarks of Mr. Cruppi, or any one else at the Congress, that a spinner or manufacturer, even so far from his home as to speculate in cotton, though all who are acquainted with the trade are well aware that, dreadful as it seems, they sometimes do in all countries. Mr. Cruppi also remarked that it was proposed to "regulate the relations between growers of cotton and those who manufacture it." It is to be feared that slight differences of opinion as to what "wise regulation" means may arise between the parties concerned; there seems to be a suggestion of such a difference already, inasmuch as conflicting views as to what is fair price for raw cotton have been expressed at the present Congress. In view of the undoubted short supply, however, it was satisfactory to hear of the efforts that are being made by the French and other Governments, besides our own, to aid in promoting the cultivation of cotton in their respective colonies; for there is one thing in which the immense majority of the world is interested, that there should be an abundant and constant supply of cotton, an article which, with grain and iron, may be said to be among the chief necessities of modern communities.

When the Congress got to business, Mr. C. W. Macara discussed the very important question how far it may be possible to prevent over-production, or, when it occurs, to remedy its effects. He pointed out that on more than one occasion recently great extensions of cotton spinning mills had been made, especially in England, without consideration as to whether there was material to run them, or markets to absorb the additional goods produced. The same observation applies in a less degree to manufacturing plants. It is the fact that the whole trade was brought face to face four years ago with a short supply of raw cotton which led to the formation of the International Federation. There was then a great deal of talk, as there always will be in such emergencies, about the wicked speculators who had organized, or were organizing, a "corner" in cotton. But to the scientific observer the efforts of these speculators were merely the market expression of the cardinal fact that there is not now enough cotton to go round in a year in which the American crop is not at least an average one per acre; and that, as years go on, there must be an increased acreage, either in America or somewhere else, unless part of the world's manufacturing capacity is to be temporarily shut out of use.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the delegates to the promotion of cotton-growing in the British Colonies, many of which include regions admirably suited for the purpose, Mr. de Hemptinne, a delegate from Belgium, who presided over the second sitting of the Congress, observed that at all their gatherings the principal questions discussed had been connected with "too little cotton or too much yarn." In view of the shortage with which the extension of cotton cultivation progressed, he was evidently inclined to rely on any short time as the most effective means of checking the operations of speculators in the raw material. This view was supported by several English delegates besides Mr. Macara, but did not appear to be received with complete approval by the French representatives.

The discussion of the short time question, in fact, brought out a certain difference which appears to exist between the intentions of the United Kingdom and Belgium on the one hand, and those of France and Italy on the other. Mr. Macara stated that short time would involve French employers in difficulties with their workmen, and Baron Catoni (Italy) pleaded in general terms for more recognition in England of the special conditions prevailing in the Continental trade. Mr. Macara diplomatically intervened at this point, reminding the Congress that the British users of Egyptian cotton had not yet been called upon to join the short-time movement, because the "trade differed in conditions from that of spinners of American cotton, and he held that similar latitude must be granted to Continental spinners who desired it; but, nevertheless, he was decidedly in favour of passing a resolution approving short time, which was done before the Congress separated. In his speech on the first day he told the assembly that this year the world's crop was 4,000,000 bales less than that of the previous year, and that it was only owing to the reduction of the consumption of the American mills by 1,000,000 bales and the diminished activity elsewhere that a repetition of the experience of 1904 had been so far avoided. Short time, however, is in any case only a palliative, and the hopes of the cotton trade must, in the long run depend on the success of the movement for extending the cultivation of cotton. Mr. D. A. Tompkins, a delegate from the United States, was anxious to impress on the Congress that the demands of American planters as regards prices were not extravagant, and that it would not be possible to grow cotton cheaper in other parts of the world. His views as to price, however, are discounted considerably by the fact that he seems to assume that the price must be such as to enable the farmer who grows it to make "as good a living as many who were engaged in manufacturing pursuits." Unfortunately, there is no "must" in such cases. As Herr Schanz, a German delegate, observed, it was largely the exorbitant demands of America that were driving Europe to seek new cotton-growing regions; he added the significant remark that the 70 million Hindus and Chinese who played such a great part in consuming cotton goods were not able to pay fair prices. In this connection it is perhaps worth noting that, though the Bombay cotton industry is, as a sum, represented at the Congress, no delegate of this not unimportant section of the trade has been reported. It is important on all grounds, that consideration for the interests of India should be shown, at any rate by the British delegates to the Congress. The way in which the policy of the Indian Government was interfered with as regards the duty on cotton goods, to please Luncheon, has been recently described by

Lord Curzon in our columns in words which will, we hope, prevent a similar disregard of India's welfare in the future. The Times.

MARK TWAIN'S DAUGHTER.

PENALTIES OF A FATHER'S FAME.

Miss Clara Clemens, daughter of "Mark Twain," who is the possessor of a rich contralto voice, has made her debut in England as a concert-singer at the Queen's Hall. She gave a recital with Miss Marie Nichols, violinist, and Mr. Walker, pianist, at the Bechstein Hall on June 16.

Miss Clemens inherits her father's sense of humour, and in the following article she tells of the tribulations which face the daughter of a celebrity.

I have just come to the conclusion that things want readjusting in this old world of ours.

Need I mention the fact that I refer to the glaring injustice of having to go about labelled "Mark Twain's daughter," when I am doing my best to pursue a musical career?

Father is, of course, a genius—and that is what makes me so tired. My fatigue is directly caused by the incessant strain—prolonged over some years and induced by trying to find a secret hiding-place where I can shroud my identity and be sure of a really comfortable bed.

I have a mind to scour Europe for such a place, and when I have found it to take to bed for, say, a couple of years, and arise—a genius. For the bad habit is the recipe of father's success.

While I have been tiring myself out in an endeavour to rise to the heights as anybody else's daughter he has just lain in bed and thought things out and got out of bed now and then to loaf around on a lecture tour or tramp lazily through Europe. That's why I'm looking for a really comfortable bed. Genius is the art of taking—t-b-d.

Father called me a genius once when I was about fifteen; and, although I guess he was just fooling me, I am not likely to forget the occasion. He had gone on a lecture tour with Mr. George W. Cable, the Southern writer, and during his absence we girls—my two sisters and myself—arranged some theatricals as a surprise for him on his return to our home at Hartford, Conn.

The piece we selected was "The Prince and the Pauper," and father pretended to enjoy it just as much as we did, and, as I said before, he informed me that I was a genius. Shortly after that memorable night I came over to Europe.

Then my troubles began. They began in Berlin, where father, thanks to no violent physical efforts on his part, is wonderfully popular. When I was not studying hard at my music I would go out occasionally to little functions, where I would sit in a corner and be completely ignored by all assembled until some foolish person whispered to another: "I believe that's Mark Twain's daughter in the corner."

I have the guests would arise as one man and swoop down upon me and expect me to be "bright" and amusing after a hard day's work. These, of course, were the occasions when my august parent was not present. At social gatherings graciously given by his presence, my existence was on the level of a footstool—always an unnecessary object in a crowded room. Father, fresh from bed, would completely flood the place with his talk. And yet, the secret of his popularity never occurred to me at the time.

But father has had much to endure, too. The last time he was in London he was assailed in Regent-street by a venerable old lady, who shook him cordially by the hand and repeated fervently: "I have always wanted to shake hands with you." My father, who was feeling particularly brilliant after a long day's rest, was much moved, and responded gratefully: "So you know who I am, madam?" Of course, I do," answered the old lady, with enthusiasm. "You're Buffalo Bill!"

Father's white suit is another of my trials. I have always believed that the reason he took to wearing it is that it soothed him and reminded him of bed. His white hair, too, can be explained satisfactorily. The explanation can be found in any well-equipped natural history museum. The hairs and the birds and the foxes in the Arctic regions are of a dazzling whiteness when the snow covers their haunts. Father is, therefore, a striking example of what is known as "sympathetic coloration." His hair has gradually assumed the color of his pillow.

But I must do father no justice. In spite of his lying-in-bed habit, he can be impetuous both in speech and action. When he gets too impetuous in speech I rise to the occasion and answer him back.

Last winter I was to sing at an important evening concert on the other side, and the entire family had been invited to attend a function in the afternoon. Father, being musical, could not understand that I should have been able to sing if I had shattered after his own fashion all the afternoon. And so I coaxed him to go and represent the family. At first he objected strongly, but finally, in a burst of impetuosity, he said: "Yes, Clara, I'll go to that reception. I'll go to—for you."

To which I thoughtfully replied: "If ever, father, you should be called upon to go there, please go labelled 'I'm for Clara.'"

WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—

On the 7th at 11.45 a.m.—The barometer has risen considerably to m. markedly over Japan and C. loca.

Pressure is high over E. Japan, and relatively low over S. China and Tongking.

Moderate E. to S.E. winds may be expected in the Forams Channel and the N. part of the China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.02 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

Hongkong & Neighbourhood. S. to S.E. winds, mod'to fair.

Formosa Channel. Same as No. 1.

South coast of China between Hongkong and Loochoo. Same as No. 1.

South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan. Same as No. 1.

Hongkong and Hainan. Same as No. 1.

Latest Steamer Movements.

The S. S. "Lightning" from Oahu left Singapore on the afternoon of the 6th inst., and may be expected here on or about 11th inst.

The B. & A. str. "Eastern" left Sydney on the 4th inst. for Queensland Ports, Timor, Manila and this port.

The I.G.M. str. "Kleist" which left here on the 2nd inst. at 1 p.m., arrived at Singapore on the 4th inst. at 5 p.m.

The C.P.R. str. "Empress of Japan" arrived Shanghai at 5 a.m. on Tuesday, the 7th inst., and left again at 4.30 p.m. same day for Nagasaki, where she is due to arrive at 6 a.m. to-morrow.

The C.P.R. str. "Empress of India" arrived at Vancouver on the 3rd inst. at 10 p.m.

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